The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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The first and worst of all frauds is to cheat one's self.—Bailey.

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TRADE UNIONISTS REFUSE TO BE SWAYED BY WORDS

What is a "radical"?

The term is tossed about by men who would have unionists believe progress consists of philosophic discussions on a new social order.

The trade union movement does not concern itself with future worlds.

Our interest is not in abstract, but in concrete, problems. Our philosophy can be summed: Workers can only go as far and as fast as their collective intelligence will permit; so we agitate, organize, educate.

Because we are guided by human experience self-styled "radicals" call us "conservative."

This is catch phrasing and word jugglery.

To be a "conservative" is to oppose change. No A. F. of L. affiliate has such a record. A union's existence is proof that its members reject standpattism.

There is no such thing as a "conservative" trade unionist. If this be doubted, ask the National Association of Manufacturers who recently warned employers against trade unions and who petted the wildest of radicals.

These anti-union employers understand trade unionism. They are not fooled by words that merely arouse emotion in unthinking workers. They are well aware that "radicals" aid them by dividing and distracting employes.

They know that trade unions challenge their autocracy and if they lose control of workers they also lose the power of suggestion in every social and civic activity.

The anti-union employer knows—if the so-called "radical" does not—that organized labor rejects the whole system of paternalism and dependence by which industrial autocrats manipulate unorganized, defenseless employes.

The "radical" is the most ignorant of men. His awesome terms impress only those who are drilled in the belief that others should think for them.

The "radical" jumbles emotion with facts, dreams with experience. He sneers that day-by-day trade union gains is a "step-at-a-time" policy, when in truth this is the very social evolution he discusses, but does not understand.

His theories have no relation to life.

He refuses to see that organized workers are guided by human experience; that they are never satisfied; that their constant aim is to make tomorrow a better day.

It is the so-called "radical" who is the conservative. He has not the slightest notion of elemental Americanism.

He clings to the Old World ideal that workers must be controlled. He never advises the worker to control himself—if he did, that would mean trade unionism.

Organized workers have their dreams, also, but first things come first. Their record of gains is unequalled. They have already accomplished what was declared impossible. No other trade union movement in the world can compare with their advance.

The trade unionist understands why hostile employers encourage so-called "radicals," who would lure him into strange paths by their "conservative" taunt.

The efforts of these "radicals" to divide workers is the most shameful page in the history of American social movements.

Union Funds Should Not Be Used To Develop Anti-Union Sentiment

Washington, Nov. 10.—The American Federation of Labor makes no attempt to control education, but trade unionists who supply money for education should be informed whenever their financial aid is used to attack the principles of organized labor.

The above summarizes a statement by the A. F. of L. Executive Council in defense of its recent recommendation that affiliates withhold support from Brookwood College.

"The Executive Council fully realized that it has no jurisdiction or control over Brookwood College," declare the A. F. of L. officials. "It understands quite well that this college is not a part of the American Federation of Labor. For this reason the Executive Council does not assume to interfere in the administrative or educational policies of Brookwood. It did not place the college, its faculty or officers on trial. It is readily conceded that an avowed Communist may be employed as a professor at Brookwood College and the cause of Communism extolled through example, teaching and writings, if the officers of this institution tolerate, approve or countenance it.

"The Executive Council, however, is of the opinion that A. F. of L. affiliates can not consistently supply funds to pay the cost of scholarships and send students to Brookwood College where they live in an atmosphere antagonistic to the A. F. of L., and are taught theories which are a contradiction to A. F. of L. philosophy.

"It would be most contradictory, indeed, for A. F. of L. affiliates to spend money in training their members at Brookwood College to develop a psychology hostile to the A. F. of L. It is inconceivable that trade union funds should be used to train men to despise our trade union philosophy, to ridicule it, and to undermine their faith and confidence in the organized labor movement and its officers.

"There is no question of academic freedom involved in this action. The Executive Council feels that in order to protect the principles, the policies and teachings of the A. F. of L. it is imperative that the organized labor movement withhold financial support from an educational institution in which doctrines are taught that are in opposition to the A. F. of L."

BOSS WOULD EVADE UNION AGREEMENT

New York, Nov. 10.—Raymond V. Ingersoll, impartial chairman for the cloak and suit industry, has ruled that a jobbing firm must abide by its union agreement not to purchase non-union made garments.

The agreement was signed by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and the Merchants' Ladies' Garment Association. The purpose of the agreement is to stabilize the industry. The union complained to the impartial chairman that the jobber had been dealing with non-union shops and the association declined to instruct him to discontinue this practice.

The association did not deny the charge, but claimed that the garments were purchased outright rather than from material furnished by the jobber.

Chairman Ingersoll rejected the employers' plea. He showed that the agreement provides: "No member of the Association shall employ or continue employing a manufacturer whose name is not included in the latest corrected list of 'union shops' furnished by the union and shall not have garments produced or supplied by such manufacturer."

The chairman declared that "neither the testimony offered by the association nor any common-sense interpretation of the language in the present agreement would permit a basis for legalizing the giving of advance orders to a non-union manufacturer to make up garments out of his own goods. Such a process would involve the actual initiation by a jobber of work in a non-union shop."

Moncada, Nicaragua's New President Wins By Ballot Where Bullets Failed

Washington, Nov. 10.—General Moncada, who was compelled by the United States to cease opposition to forces that had usurped the government of Nicaragua, has been elected president of that country.

In 10 departments (states) the Liberals received three votes for every one cast for the Conservatives. The polls were guarded by several thousand American marines and bluejackets.

The election is a rebuke to reactionary elements in 1925 when General Charmorro seized the presidency, forced the regularly-elected president—Solorzano—to sign his resignation and compelled Vice President Sacasa to flee the country.

The Liberal revolution, led by General Moncada, started on May 2, 1926, and five days later American marines were landed and established a neutral zone. The following November the Nicaraguan Congress, in special session, elected Adolfo Diaz president, General Charmorro resigning.

The Liberals insisted that Vice President Sacasa, who was in exile, should be president, according to the Constitution, because of the resignation of President Solorzano.

The Liberals claimed they were fighting to uphold the Constitution. President Diaz failed to cope with the so-called "revolutionists," and called on the United States to establish peace.

President Coolidge appointed Henry L. Stimson, New York banker, his special representative, to compose differences. Mr. Stimson ordered both sides to cease fighting and that the people elect officials in an election that would be guarded by American marines. Under threat of using the marines against the Liberals if they did not comply, General Moncada accepted the Stimson decision. Sandino, one of their number, refused to accept this settlement and has been waging a guerilla warfare.

"RED" MINE WORKERS CHARTERED BY STATE

Harrisburg, Pa., Nov. 10.—A small group of miners have formed the "Anthracite Mine Workers of Pennsylvania," and are chartered by the state. The movement is the result of an illegal convention held in Scranton several months ago that ousted regularly-elected officials. This disregard for union law resulted in the expulsion of the trouble makers who were encouraged by Communists.

Members of the United Mine Workers are only interested in the secession movement to the extent of pointing to the methods they use. They pose as "progressives" while they rush to the state for a charter, which permits any judge, on complaint of a single member, to bring the so-called "union" into court and demand an explanation for any act or proposed act.

This is an ideal situation for company men and spies who mask as revolutionists.

The insurrectionists are supported by the "red" Save-the-Union committee and the "red" Trade Union Educational League.

Differences between the regular unionists are adjusted and the chartered "union" will have the usual ending.

For "revolutionists," however, to be chartered by the state is the most amusing thing in the tempestuous history of the anthracite region.

"CONTEMPT OF COURT"

Federal Judge Geiger of Milwaukee jailed 26 strikers for contempt of court, following their refusal to obey his anti-picketing injunction.

The strikers include nine women. They would not accept one-man government and the court ordered them confined in the Milwaukee House of Correction.

Did the strikers approach the jail with fear and trembling? They did not. They sang and cheered.

An injunction judge is on dangerous ground when workers laugh because he throws them into jail.

The very "contempt of court" he would check is more liable to increase.

Force and fear can uphold wrong, but when laughter replaces fear wrong loses its strongest prop.

DODGING INJUNCTION ISSUE

James A. Emery, general counsel for the National Association of Manufacturers, continues to dodge the labor injunction evil.

In 25 years, he says, the federal courts issued, on an average, but three of these injunctions a year, and this should not cause alarm.

Let us accept Mr. Emery's claim that of 968 federal injunctions during the last 25 years, but 71 applied to labor. He ignores what these 71 orders have accomplished.

They have annulled government by law in labor disputes, established government by one man, denied free press, speech and assemblage, and made it possible for judges to dictate when and how strikers may picket; they have prohibited a bonding company from aiding miners to appeal eviction cases; they have ordered unionists to not cease work.

It does not take many injunctions to sweep aside every right that is guaranteed workers.

One tyranny is as hateful as one thousand.

Workers will discuss the labor injunction from the standpoint of principle. They are not interested in the adding-machine method of Mr. Emery.

ACCIDENT STUDIES IS PRESSING NEED

Washington, Nov. 10.—A study of accidents to workers is the object of a bill that will be considered by Congress when it convenes next month.

The bill was introduced by Senator Shortridge and has been approved by the Senate Committee on Education and Labor.

The committee calls attention to estimates of 2,500,000 industrial accidents each year, with permanent injuries to more than 100,000 persons, and costing $200,000,000 a year in payments to workmen or dependents.

There is no uniformity in states where accident statistics are collected. In several states no statistics are collected. Generally speaking, there is no agency in the federal government or in the state governments which compiles these statistics, analyses them and put them to work.

The Department of Labor reported that it had been doing what it could with statistics it can gather, and insisted that this legislation is needed to give support and strength to its efforts.

The Senate committee stated that "there is no question raised as to the importance of this work."

ALIEN SEAMEN SLIP IN; PROFIT TO SHIP OWNERS

Washington, Nov. 10.—Large numbers of foreign seamen make illegal entry to this country every year, said Secretary of Labor Davis in a radio talk on the work of his department.

"An alien seamen can enter this country in the pursuit of his calling, and remain here for 60 days for the purpose of getting a job on another ship," said Mr. Davis.

"During a period of 60 days it is not unusual for a seamen to secure a land job which is probably more lucrative than his regular calling. Thousands of seamen remain each year, and in spite of all the vigilance of the Immigration Service we are unable to find and deport all who have evaded the law in this manner."

The King bill now pending in Congress is a solution for conditions pointed out by Secretary Davis, according to the International Seamen's Union. These unionists show that foreign vessels touch American ports with a larger number of seamen than is required, and when they leave such port sign only such seamen as are required to handle the vessel.

Under the King bill these vessels could not secure clearance papers unless they had the same number of seamen on departure they had when entering the port. This law would put an end to the bootlegging of alien seamen that is proving so profitable to foreign vessels.

GOVERNMENT ASKS ALIEN LAW HEARING

Washington, Nov. 10.—The government asks the United States Supreme Court to reconsider its decision that Canadian citizens have the right, under the century-old Jay Treaty, to enter the United States when employed here.

The Supreme Court upheld a lower court decree which set aside the Immigration Bureau's order requiring Canadian commuters to have immigration visas.

In asking for a review, the government says the Supreme Court's decision will have consequences of grave public importance which were not perceived at the time the decision was made.

If the decision is allowed to stand, the government says, "British subjects, whether white or black or of Oriental strain, will be able to enter the United States through Canada and obtain admission for indefinite stays regardless of laws which may make them ineligible.

"In fact," the government contends, "it follows that persons of any nationality must be admitted to the United States under this decision without regard to the immigration laws as soon as they become lawfully domiciled within Canada, and thereby become British subjects."

FOREIGN TRADE DROP ALARMS BRITISHERS

London, England, Nov. 10.—A huge drop in British overseas trade and growing unemployment is alarming this nation.

Imports in September were £10,000,000 ($50,000,000) less than in August. Exports were down £5,600,000, compared with August, and were £4,000,000 less than a year ago. The seriousness of the drop is emphasized by the fact that September usually shows an increase in trade.

"The government reports form a disturbing reflection of the position as winter approaches," says the Daily Herald.

"It is the fourth winter—and in many respects threatens to be the worst of the four—under the present Baldwin administration. The premier has declared that his party would be unfaithful to its principles and its duty if it did not treat the task of grappling with the unemployment of our people and with the serious condition of industry as a primary obligation."

CO-OPERATIVES MEET; ANNUAL SALES LARGE

Waukegan, Ill., Nov. 10.—The sixth biennial Congress of the Co-operative League of the United States included fraternal delegates from labor and farmer organizations. The 81 delegates represented 97 consumers' co-operative store, restaurant, housing, bakery, credit and insurance societies. Discussion centered around co-operative insurance, chain store competition, credit versus cash trading and creating new centers of co-operative interest.

The secretary's report showed that at the end of last year there were 155 societies with 77,826 shareholders affiliated to the league. Annual sales totaled $14,000,000 for 120 societies reporting.

MINERS' OFFICIAL DIES

Fort Smith, Ark., Nov. 10.—Andrew Steele, international board member United Mine Workers of America, died in a local hospital following a short illness. He was a union official for many years.

BRITISH JOB SEEKERS RETURN FROM CANADA

London, England, Nov. 10.—Workers who were induced by the government to emigrate to Canadian wheat fields are returning. They are disillusioned and penniless. One group of 150, who landed at Southampton, pleaded with the local employment exchange for assistance to get to their homes. They were advanced sufficient money after pledging they will repay the amount.

Members of the party stated that harvesters all over Canada are anxious to return home, but are without funds. A statement that was generally supported was that the harvesters searched diligently for work but had not found a day's employment.

The men were encouraged to go to Canada following the government's announcement several weeks ago that 200,000 workers would have to leave England because of unemployment.

DRIVERS REINSTATED

Pittsburgh, Pa., Nov. 10.—Four drivers were reinstated with pay for lost time by the Sun-Telegraph. The adjustment was made following a strike of 75 drivers.

MACHINISTS WANT MORE

Toronto, Canada, Nov. 10.—Machinists are preparing to present a demand for increased wages.

BUSSES LEAD RAILS IN MILES TRAVELED

Washington, Nov. 10.—The 4-year-old motor bus industry operates over a mileage route 5 per cent greater than the American railway system, according to the American Automobile Association. Sixty-six representative motor bus companies throughout the United States last year carried more than 400,000,000 passengers, it was said.

"The motor coach is the natural result of the demand created by the private passenger car for swift, comfortable and economical transportation," the report continued. "Many steam and electric lines have realized this and substitution of motor coach for non-paying train and trolley service has, during the last few years, been the rule rather than the exception.

"Bus transportation has reached a total of about 86,000 units. This total is not large, compared with automobile registration, but to appreciate its full significance it must be compared with the number of units in the electric railway industry. In the heydey of the trolley, after two decades of expansion, about 100,000 were in use."

FARM ILLS HIT LABOR, U. S. SENATOR DECLARES

New York, Nov. 10.—"The farmer's condition is of interest to the city dweller, and especially to urban workers," said Senator Copeland.

"If the farmer fails he goes to the city and increases the number of workers there. Overcrowding in the great industrial centers means undue competition and lower wages.

"It is a sad commentary to learn that farmers last year received $7,500,000,000 for their crops, but when these crops came to the consumers, the latter paid $22,500,000,000."

TRUST CIGAR STORES WILL CUT LABOR COST

New York, Nov. 10.—Low-wage clerks employed by the United Cigar Stores Company, and who "don't believe in unions," are to be replaced by automatic machinery.

The machines will sell small merchandise, including cigars and cigarettes, in the company's 3,200 stores throughout the country.

OUTPUT OF FIREARMS INCREASED LAST YEAR

Washington, Nov. 10.—The manufacture of firearms and ammunition in this country last year totaled $50,000,000, or 28 per cent more than in 1925, according to the Department of Commerce.

These figures do not include fireworks, dynamite, gunpowder or other explosives for sale as such.

OIL WORKERS GAIN

Austin, Texas, Nov. 10.—The Humble Oil Company has placed drillers on a six-day week basis.

FAIR-WEATHER "REDS" PLEADING FOR BOSSES

Vancouver, Canada, Nov. 10.—Communists in this city urge striking carpenters to return to work and "settle their differences by negotiation."

The carpenters are members of the Brotherhood of Carpenters, affiliated to the A. F. of L. They are refusing to work with duallists whose wage rate is $1.50 a day below the union scale. The regular unionists repeatedly offered to admit the duallists without initiation fee and for years have pleaded with them to cease lowering living standards. As a last resort the carpenters suspended work.

Now the Communists—who howl for a strike every hour—are lined up with the contractors. To secure a foothold they pose as pacifists and would create the opinion that the regular union has made no peace offers the last five years.

JAILED STRIKERS SING; VIOLATED INJUNCTION

Milwaukee, Nov. 10.—Twenty-six trade unionists, on strike against the Allen-A Hosiery Company in Kenosha, sang and cheered when they marched into the House of Correction to serve time for violating Federal Judge Geiger's injunction not to picket or to "molest" strikebreakers.

When the strikers left Kenosha for this city their departure resembled a college football celebration. The jail commitments followed the workers' refusal to pay fines of $100 each for contempt of court. Nine women are included in the group.

The strike, which started several months ago, followed the company's attempt to destroy the Hosiery Workers' Union and install a speed-up system.

OLD-AGE PENSIONS FAVORED IN CANADA

Toronto, Canada, Nov. 10.—This province will accept the Dominion old-age pension system, said Premier Ferguson, in a speech in this city. The cabinet official said this action will be taken by the next legislature.

TRADE UNIONISTS ALWAYS LEAD

By KATHERINE DEVEREAUX BLAKE
Principal Public School No. 6, Manhattan, New York City (Retired)

Union members are always leaders because they are more than 13 years old mentally. So they lead the 13-year-olds. The people who start ideas very often do not get the credit, because some of the 13-year-olds finally see that it is a good idea, and they come forward, claim it as their own, and when it is accomplished say that they did it. But it is the union that thinks of it first.

The union made the first step for increased salaries for teachers, made it in spite of the opposition of the conservative organizations of teachers. The union has worked not only for better salaries and for better pensions, but they have worked for what is even more important, for the rights of teachers.

It is courage that the union means to us more than anything else. It has been the courage to go ahead, not the courage of the wild animal, but the pure white courage that burns with a clear light of self-sacrifice.

This wonderful courage that you have, when it is big enough to be mass courage, ceases to be punished.

GOVERNMENT WORKERS IN CANADA MAY UNITE

Ottawa, Ontario, Nov. 10.—The Canadian government recognizes labor's right to organize and private employers should take the same position, said Minister of Labor Peter Heenan, in an address to organized government employes.

The prime minister and his cabinet approve these sentiments, declared the labor minister.

"I would like it to be taken as an example by the various employers throughout the country in their attitude toward their own employes," said Mr. Heenan. "If this attitude is adopted by private employers great good can result."

JEWISH PRINTERS WIN FIVE-DAY WEEK

New York, Nov. 10.—Jewish printers in this city, affiliated to the International Typographical Union, secured a five-day week, following a one-day strike. In addition to the 40-hour week, the present $60-a-week rate is raised $5 a week, $2 a week for the first year of the four-year agreement and $1 for each of the other four years. The contract also provides for three paid holidays. More than 250 workers are benefitted.

TEXTILE MANAGERS OUT OF DATE; FAULTY METHODS HARM INDUSTRY

Greenville, S. C., Nov. 10.—Many textile manufacturers are out of date and depend on low wages to "muddle through," declared students of this industry at a banquet here.

James W. Cox, Jr., chairman of the textile division of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, said that the average textile mill has been operated "in a rather haphazard, slipshod, careless manner, as compared to modern industries. We have been governed a great deal by precedent and custom, not by reason," he said.

"With present keen competition a textile mill can not be profitably operated by old-fashioned so-called 'practical' methods, or on new 'theories,' but must be operated on facts in a definitely controlled, scientific manner. Other industries have done this and so can we. Some mills are doing it, most of them are not."

J. E. Sirrine, mill engineer of this city, deplored the low-wage system that has been fastened on this industry.

"While many improvements have been made in machinery," he said, "we have not heard much about the output per person. This country has not grown rich on low wages. The policy of thrift, if carried too far, would bankrupt the United States. Is it wise to think we should have low wages to succeed? I don't know how much we can increase wages, but why don't we start with the idea and see if we can not raise general prosperity by increasing the product per person."

Mr. Sirrine declared that cotton manufacturers use their machinery too long. They could afford to scrap their equipment much quicker than they do; they lack courage, he said.

Fuller Ignores Vanzetti "Frame-Up" Charge

Boston, Nov. 10.—Governor Fuller refuses to discuss sensational claims by Outlook, New York conservative magazine, that Vanzetti was "framed" for complicity in the Bridgewater holdup. The conviction was used against the accused in his trial for the South Braintree holdup and murder which resulted in his and Sacco's execution.

Governor Fuller has made no comment on the Outlook's sworn affidavits from underworld characters that have been checked up by court testimony taken during Vanzetti's trial for the Bridgewater holdup. It is significant that the state's record of this case is missing. The Outlook secured a copy from the Harvard Law Library.

In reply to repeated requests for comment on the latest developments of this trial, the governor's secretary stated that he (the governor) "is not any more impressed with this confession than he was with the confession of Madeiros."

Madeiros was executed for murder in connection with another holdup, but before his death he confessed that his gang committed the South Braintree crime, for which Sacco and Vanzetti were sent to the electric chair.

Before the two men were executed the governor appointed a commission to investigate and report to him. This commission consisted of President Lowell of Harvard University, President Stratton of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Judge Robert Grant.

In discussing the two cases, the commissioners said: "It has been urged that a crime of this kind (the South Braintree crime) must have been committed by professionals and that it is for well known criminal gangs that one must look; but to the committee, both this crime and the one at Bridgewater do not seem to bear the marks of professionals, but of men inexpert in such crimes."

The attempt of two educators and a lawyer to pose as an authority on criminal technique is contrasted to the Outlook's evidence and the statement made by Madeiros just before his execution.

The strongest evidence presented by the Outlook was a receipt issued by the American Express Company for a barrel of eels shipped to Vanzetti at Plymouth, Mass., on the day of the Bridgewater holdup. This supports Vanzetti's claim that he was 31 miles from that crime. The receipt was given to Governor Fuller's personal attorney before the executions. The character and importance of the paper were explained to him and he promised that it would be handed to the governor and to the Lowell committee. No mention of this alibi is found in the reasons given for the executions by the governor and the committee.

Since then the governor has never answered repeated requests why he failed to refer to this receipt.

PUBLIC FAIL TO SHARE GAINS THRU LOWER OUTPUT COSTS

Chicago, Nov. 10.—Workers have not shared in our national prosperity to any appreciable extent, says Matthew Woll, president International Photo Engravers' Union, writing in the official magazine of that organization.

The trade unionist presents statistics to disprove the claim that a lowering of production costs lowers price levels. Our national economic philosophy, he says, should include the ascertainment of costs that the public can be protected against unjustified price levels.

Mr. Woll calls attention to research by the United States Bureau of Standards which annually saves the government $100,000,000 on goods purchased. The bureau is not permitted to release its findings to the public.

Professor Robert A. Brady of New York University is quoted that the ordinary customer does not realize economies that would result if the bureau's information were available.

The educator said that the government aids manufacturers to produce more efficiently but the savings have been held by manufacturers.

"There is no reliable evidence," said Prof. Brady, "that the benefits of government research, given to manufacturers, have been passed on to the consumer. To the contrary, there is much reason for believing that the benefits are going no further than an increase in manufacturers' profits."

"If the government can annually save $100,000,000 by having its Bureau of Standards protect it from extortionate prices, why can not this service be extended to the people?" asks Mr. Woll.

"This service would destroy the constant gesture that organized labor's demands are in the main responsible for higher price levels. By all means, let us have the facts."

MINERS REJECT SCALE

Cheyenne, Wyo., Nov. 10.—Organized miners in this state rejected a wage scale agreed to by their committee and later indorsed by a delegate convention. The union's representatives will again confer with coal owners.